CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

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2 September 1969
ENGLISH

FINAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE FOUR HUNDRED AND THIRTY-THIRD MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Tuesday, 2 September 1969, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: U KYAW MIN (Burma)

(Previous verbatim records in this series appeared under the symbols ENDC/PV.1-ENDC/PV.430).

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PRESENT AT THE TABLE

Argentina:	Mr. C. ORTIZ de ROZAS
	Mr. A.F. DUMONT
	Mr. O. SARACHO
Brazil:	Mr. S.A. FRAZAO
	Mr. P. CABRAL de MELLO
	Mr. L.F. PALMEIRA LAMPREIA
	Mr. M. DARCY de OLIVEIRA
Bulgaria:	Mr. K. CHRISTOV
	Mr. M. KARASSIMEONOV
	Mr. I. PEINIRDJIEV
Burma:	U KYAW MIN
Canada:	Mr. G. IGNATIEFF
	Mr. R.W. CLARK
	Mr. J.R. MORDEN
Czechoslovakia:	Mr. T. LAHODA
	Mr. [illegible]. VEJVODA
	Mr. J. CINGROS
Hungary:	Mr. J. PETRAN
	Mr. S. HAJNAL
India:	Mr. M.A. HUSAIN
	Mr. N. KRISHNAN
	Mr. K.P. JAIN
Italy:	Mr. R. CARACCIOLO
	Mr. F.L. OTTIERI
	Mr. R. BORSARELLI
	Mr. U. PESTALOZZA

Japan:	Mr. K. ASAKAI
	Mr. Y. NAKAYAMA
	Mr. T. SENGOKU
	Mr. J. SAKAMOTO
Mexico:	Miss E. AGUIRRE
Mongolia:	Mr. M. DUGERSUREN
	Mr. Z. ERENDOO
Morocco:	Mr. A.A. KHATTABI
Netherlands:	Mr. E. BOS
Nigeria:	Alhaji SULE KOLO
Pakistan:	Mr. K. AHMED
Poland:	Mr. A. CZARKOWSKI
	Mr. H. STEPOSZ
	Mr. R. WLAZLO
Romania:	Mr. N. ECOBESCO
	Mr. O. IONESCO
	Mr. A. SASU
	Mr. F. ROSU
Sweden:	Mr. A. EDELSTAM
	Mr. R. BOMAN
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:	Mr. A.A. ROSHCHIN
	Mr. R.M. TIMERBAEV
	Mr. V.B. TOULINOV
United Arab Republic:	Mr. O. SIRRY
	Mr. Y. RIZK
	Mr. M. ISMAIL

United Kingdom:	Mr. I.F. PORTER
	Mr. W.N. HILLIER-FRY
	Mr. R.I.T. CROMARTIE
United States of America:	Mr. J.F. LEONARD
	Mr. A.F. NEIDLE
	Mr. W. GIVAN
	Mr. R.L. McCORMACK
Yugoslavia:	Mr. M. BOZINOVIC
	Mr. M. VUKOVIC
Special Representative of the Secretary-General:	Mr. D. PROTITCH
Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General:	Mr. W. EPSTEIN

1. The CHAIRMAN (Burma): I declare open the 433rd plenary meeting of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament.

2. Mr. FRAZAO (Brazil): I have asked to speak to introduce the working paper (CCD/267) which has been circulated today and which deals with another aspect of a treaty for the non-armament of the sea-bed and the ocean floor. I shall be extremely brief, because I assume that the working paper will be self-explanatory.

3. The inclusion of specific provisions for the settlement of disputes has not yet been under considerable scrutiny by the Conference as a whole, and that is exactly what I am aiming at in submitting the working paper, because I am persuaded that the examination of that very important subject could greatly facilitate both our negotiations and the implementation of the eventual treaty. The Brazilian delegation believes that if the treaty clearly indicated that an appropriate system for the solution of controversies would be available whenever the need arose there would be more confidence in the effects of the treaty, consequently favouring its entry into force and its acceptance by a substantial number of States. As I said previously, I feel that even during the process of negotiation those beneficial results would begin to be felt.

4. We have attempted to foresee some hypothetical situations in which conflicts, disputes, controversies or divergencies could occur. It will be recognized that such potential difficulties are manifold, and sometimes of extreme gravity. Since no mechanisms have been proposed so far for solving the difficulties that might arise it seems logical for us to attempt at least a preliminary outline of possible procedures.

5. We anticipate that it will be said that the inclusion of provisions of this type is something new in arms control or disarmament instruments. We do not think that this could be a valid argument for discarding consideration of this important matter. It seems clear to me that a treaty for the non-armament of the sea-bed has a number of other original characteristics and that therefore no reluctance to innovate should deter us if it is widely thought that provisions should be made with regard to the settlement of disputes.

(Mr. Frazão, Brazil)

6. We must stress that a treaty for the non-armament of the sea-bed and ocean floor is bound to be the first multilateral agreement on disarmament to be negotiated in this Committee which foresees the use of foreign means of control in areas under the national jurisdiction of States parties. In fact, in the context of the treaty we are envisaging the continental shelf or even the territorial waters of States parties may come within the area in which the necessary control operations to ensure the strictest possible observance of the agreement may be carried out by national means of control of other States parties.

7. I therefore think that the inclusion of appropriate provisions designed to ensure the settlement of any possible disputes arising from the actual interpretation of the provisions of the agreement, especially from the operation of its norms of control, would be a very valuable element in the negotiation and enforcement of a treaty for the non-armament of the sea-bed and ocean floor.

The Conference decided to issue the following communiqué:

"The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament today held its 433rd plenary meeting in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, under the chairmanship of U Kyaw Min, representative of Burma.

"A statement was made by the representative of Brazil.

"The delegation of Brazil submitted a working paper on the settlement of disputes arising from the implementation of a treaty for the non-armament of the sea-bed and ocean floor (CCD/267).

"The next meeting of the Conference will be held on Thursday, 4 September 1969, at 10.30 a.m."

The meeting rose at 10.45 a.m.